

2/17/1873

I can't understand why I recall so few of the incidents of that most important day, when the University of Kansas graduated its first class, seven years after the opening of the institution - Such a proud day as it was too, for all of us, which means largely the whole town. As the faculty and student body were both so very small, ~~so~~ the people of Lawrence were most happy to comply with the request that they should furnish a picnic lunch, to be served after the graduating exercises were over, as a testimonial. A general invitation was given out to the townspeople, and as many hands were needed to help prepare the lunch I went at eight o'clock, with my ^{Min & now} husband to the then unfinished Frasier Hall. In the pleasant company of Mrs. T. L. Thatcher and Mrs. Babcock I worked for two hours preparing sandwiches in one of the lecture rooms, where many busy hands were employed. At ten o'clock my husband came for me to go into the unplastered chapel, where we listened to the ^{commencement} address of the students of the graduating class, General Frasier presiding. Although it was such a momentous occasion, the students seemed unembarrassed and relieved the mind of Prof. Kellogg, who had criticized their orations, and ^{drilled} ~~drilled~~ them as severely as so cultured and brilliant a teacher ~~so~~ he was, must needs do; and yet with all allowance for their want of previous training. It was, ^{both satisfied} a glad and amused smile that he turned to receive my happy and relieved con-

gratulations when the exercises were over. Owing
to the absence of plaster and of the present wide
platform and seats, for I think we must have
been seated on a temporary arrangement of boards.
I can ^{not} now locate the position of the small dais
erected for this occasion. The hole in the center of
the ceiling, which met our gaze later through
several years, had not then appeared. I recall
no details of the bill of fare served on board
tables, and the post prandial ^{speech} ~~speech~~ ^{which} I
remember particularly was General Miles of the
United States ^{who, I suppose,} ~~army,~~ ^{was invited from Toledo, probably to be}
the guest of honor for the day,
a remarkably handsome and distinguished looking
officer; and he was ^{delighting} ~~delighting~~ us with his
ready words of sympathy and approbation. The
general lunch habit was continued for three
years, when it became so very popular that the
men of the Kimball foundry brought their wives
and children to be fed, beside such a large
number of the citizens of the town that an entire
change in the proceedings became necessary.